

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 157422
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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
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AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157422

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, PFOR

SUBJECT: US/EC PRESIDENCY DIALOGUE: JULY 7-8 POLITICAL
DIRECTORS MEETING
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PAGE 02 STATE 157422

REF: BRUSSELS 07208

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO CONSULT WITH BELGIAN EC PRESIDENCY
ON FOLLOWING REFTTEL AGENDA ITEMS.
2. PLO MEMBERSHIP IN ECWA. THE 63RD SESSION OF ECOSOC

(JULY 6-AUGUST 5) WILL DECIDE WHETHER TO AMEND THE MEMBERSHIP RULES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA TO PROVIDE FULL MEMBERSHIP FOR THE PLO. YOU SHOULD STRESS OUR OPPOSITION TO THIS PROPOSAL AND OUR HOPE FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE EC-9, SIX OF WHOM ARE ECOSOC MEMBERS (DENMARK, FRANCE, FRG, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, UK). WE HAVE MADE SEPARATE APPROACHES TO THESE AND MOST OTHER ECOSOC MEMBERS, ASKING THAT THEY OPPOSE PLO MEMBERSHIP ON THE GROUNDS THAT: --ELEVATION OF THE PLO TO FULL MEMBER STATUS WOULD BE A HARMFUL INSTITUTIONAL PRECEDENT FOR THE UN. IT WOULD BE THE FIRST INSTANCE OF GIVING A NON-STATE THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE A UN ORGAN. -- FULL MEMBERSHIP IN UN SYSTEM HAS BEEN AND SHOULD BE LIMITED TO THOSE WILLING AND ABLE TO SATISFY MEMBERSHIP

OBLIGATIONS.

--SUCH AN ACTION WOULD COMPLICATE EVEN FURTHER THE CURRENT EFFORTS TO GET MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS STARTED SINCE THE STATUS OF PLO AND PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION IS ONE OF KEY PROBLEMS TO BE RESOLVED.

3. BELGIAN HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE. AT THE 31ST GA THE BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PUT FORWARD A PROPOSAL THAT WOULD HAVE GOVERNMENTS COMMIT THEMSELVES, VOLUNTARILY AND IN ADVANCE, TO ACCEPTING A VISIT FROM AN AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION INVESTIGATING HUMAN RIGHTS
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PAGE 03 STATE 157422

VIOLATIONS UNDER PROCEDURES DEFINED IN ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1503. THE BELGIAN PROPOSAL WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE 32ND GA. WE HAVE SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSAL, PARTICULARLY THE NATURE OF THE CONTEMPLATED COMMITMENT TO ADMIT AN AD HOC COMMITTEE AND THE MANNER IN WHICH THAT COMMITMENT WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED UNDER RESOLUTION 1503. FOR EXAMPLE, HOW WOULD CONDITIONS PRIOR TO LAUNCHING AN INVESTIGATION BE FULFILLED AND HOW WOULD THE MAKE-UP OF AN INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE BE DETERMINED? THESE COULD BE CRUCIAL POINTS IN A CASE WHERE A MAJORITY OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION DECIDED, FOR PRIMARILY POLITICAL REASONS, TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION REGARDLESS OF THE UNDERLYING HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. WE INFORMED THE BELGIANS LAST YEAR THAT WE SHARE THEIR CONCERN FOR STRENGTHENING THE UN'S HUMAN RIGHTS PROCEDURES AND FIND THEIR PROPOSAL AN IMAGINATIVE ONE AND ASKED FOR SOME CLARIFICATION CONCERNING THE QUESTION RAISED ABOVE. WE PROMISED TO GIVE THE PROPOSAL CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND SAID WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE VIEWS OF OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTS. TO DATE, THERE HAS BEEN NO BELGIAN FOLLOW-UP.

4. CYPRUS. UNTIL THE TURKISH POLITICAL SCENE CLARIFIES

ITSELF -- WHICH MAY TAKE SOME ADDITIONAL WEEKS -- NOTHING OF SUBSTANCE CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH RESPECT TO CYPRUS AND TO THE OTHER PROBLEMS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. DURING THIS PERIOD INTERESTED OUTSIDERS MUST CONTINUE MARKING TIME. WE HAVE NO PLANS FOR A SECOND CLIFFORD MISSION OR FOR ANY OTHER SPECIFIC INITIATIVES, BUT WE CONTINUE TO BE HOPEFUL THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO MOVE AHEAD AS EARLY AS LATE AUGUST/EARLY SEPTEMBER. WE THUS THINK IT DESIRABLE THAT THE TRACK BE KEPT CLEAR FOR WHATEVER INITIATIVES WE AND THE EUROPEANS MIGHT TAKE TOGETHER WHEN CONDITIONS ARE RIGHT. WE THUS WOULD HOPE THAT DISCUSSION OF CYPRUS AT THE FALL CSCE BELGRADE MEETING, THE UNGA CYPRUS DEBATE, THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSIDERATION ON THE CYPRUS HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT, ETC. WOULD NOT GET IN THE WAY OF A MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATING PROCESS. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 STATE 157422

WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE EC ON CYPRUS, AND WE APPRECIATE THE COMMUNITY'S CONTINUING

DESIRE TO WORK WITH US TO DO WHAT IS POSSIBLE TO PROMOTE A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT.

UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR CYPRUS DE CUELLAR WAS IN WASHINGTON JUNE 27 AND INDICATED HIS INTENTION ON HIS RETURN TO CYPRUS TO CONSULT WITH THE TWO COMMUNAL NEGOTIATORS TO SEE IF A MEETING(S) CAN BE ORGANIZED TO FOLLOW-UP ON THE TALKS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN NICOSIA IN LATE MAY AND EARLY JUNE BEFORE BEING RECESSED FOR THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON RENEWAL OF THE UNFICYP MANDATE. WE ENCOURAGED DE CUELLAR TO DO WHAT HE COULD TO GET THE TALKS STARTED AGAIN, ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE CHIEF VALUE OF CONTINUED INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS UNDER UN AUSPICES AT THIS STAGE IS ONLY TO KEEP THE PROCESS IN MOTION AND THUS OBVIATE (HOPEFULLY) PROCEDURAL DIFFICULTIES WHICH COULD OCCUR ONCE CONDITIONS PERMIT REAL FORWARD MOVEMENT. SIMILARLY, WE COUNSELED VISITING CYPRUS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES KYPRIANOU LAST WEEK TO ENCOURAGE GREEK CYPRIOT PATIENCE UNTIL A NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT WAS FIRMLY IN CONTROL. WE ALSO URGED THAT IN ITS PUBLIC STATEMENTS THE GREEK SIDE NOT GIVE THE TURKS AN EXCUSE TO RAISE PROBLEMS.

WE CONTINUE TO WATCH THE AEGEAN CLOSELY AND ARE PREPARED IF THE PRESENT SITUATION REQUIRES TO REITERATE OUR STRONG HOPE THAT BOTH SIDES EXERCISE RESTRAINT AND MAKE A GREATER EFFORT TO WORK OUT THEIR DIFFERENCES THROUGH THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. VANCE

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